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SECRET [redacted] 25X1

GUIDED MISSILES

Activities of ZAVOD 456

This ZAVOD consisted essentially of two distinct portions: an OKB or special design department mostly staffed by Germans (with Russian supervisors) and the ZAVOD proper employing Russians only. The OKB and ZAVOD had roughly similar equipment but differed in floor space and production facilities, including jigs and tools, the ZAVOD being by far the larger.

It appears reasonably certain that the ZAVOD was originally intended to take up series production of combustion chambers whilst the OKB was to carry out experimental and development work. The whole of 1947 was spent to get the ZAVOD organised to this end. Although very little was actually produced that year [redacted] 25X1
[redacted] the equipment was such that by 1948, a production of 100 complete propulsion units per month should have been possible (under German management and staff!). As a matter of fact, the total combined production of the OKB and the ZAVOD over the period 1948/50 amounted to less than a hundred complete propulsion units. [redacted] 25X1
this discrepancy not so much to inefficiency as to a deliberate change in plan. It seems evident that from the beginning of 1948, the Soviet authorities relegated ZAVOD 456 to the status of an experimental establishment acting more or less as an extention to the OKB. 25X1

The object seems to have been merely to produce a limited number of propulsion units for firing trials and at the same time familiarize the Russian staff with the production method, utilizing Russian materials as far as possible. [redacted] the Russians had thoroughly mastered the necessary welding technique and had produced combustion chambers equal in performance to anything the Germans had manufactured. 25X1

[redacted] 25X1

Production figures of OKB and ZAVOD 456

[redacted] 25X1

For the first year (1947) the OKB was responsible for the assembly and despatch of 5 complete propulsion units of 25 ton thrust.

During this year, the ZAVOD was being organised for mass production and towards the end of the year had a major assembly line (evacuated from NORDHAUSEN) in action. This was demonstrated to a number of Russian Commissions, but only very few 25 ton thrust units were actually produced. [redacted] production figures for 25X1
the next 3 years (1948/1950) [redacted] estimate is given in the 25X1
following table:

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	Complete Propulsion Units		Combustion chambers only	
	25 ton	35 ton	25 ton	35 ton
OKB	10	10	12	13
ZAVOD	25	35	40	80
Total:	35	45	52	93
Grand Total	80		145	

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the ZAVOD produced 3 times as many complete units and five times as many combustion chambers as did the OKB. Although the period in question amounts to 3 years by 1950, the manufacture of standard combustion chambers(by then mostly of 35 ton thrust) had almost ceased, both the OKB and the ZAVOD being busy with the 100 ton project.

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By Sept 1950), work on the new combustion chamber was well advanced and series production on this unit could well be on the way by the beginning of 1952.

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